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# GUILFORD GENEALOGY

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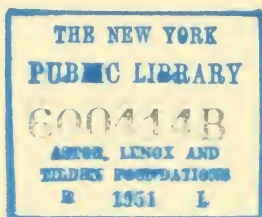
# GUILFORD GENEALOGY

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BY  
HELEN MORRILL GUILFORD  
1918

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## PREFACE

Many of the records in this manuscript were collected by my husband, Jonas Guilford, who after his retirement from his profession, became much interested in the history of his family. According to his request I have continued the work, finding in it, as I proceeded, a pleasant and agreeable task. I recommend a similar task to those who wish to extend their acquaintance among the people who lived several hundred years ago. It stimulates the imagination and induces reflection.

Nathen Guilford seemed not to have been aware of William the emigrant, but William Wallace Guilford of Boston, a keen genealogist discovered this Maryland voyager at an early day. To him I am indebted for information which assisted me in a further search for records in Maryland and England. This descendant of William has shown marvelous industry in collecting and arranging records connected with the branch of Guilfords who settled in Maine.

Helen Morrill Guilford

February, 1918

Minneapolis



## GULDEFORD OR GUILFORD

William, John and Samuel Guilford came to New England sometime between 1648 and 1650 as nearly as can be learned from records of that time.

Descendants have said that they were from Kent, Old England, and that they came to America by way of Virginia, to Scituate, N. E. As their names are not seen in the list of emigrants, it is presumed that they came in their own vessel.

Although this is not always proof, records have made it quite clear that William Guilford was the owner of a vessel.

Tradition says, "Servants were with them," which is quite probable as many people coming to N. E. at that time brought servants.

At the time of their coming here Cromwell's Army was working destruction among the landholders of England; estates were being confiscated or excessively taxed, and innumerable disorders arising.

Macaulay tells us that many old and honorable families long settled in England left it forever at that time.

In an old volume we read,—“Among the estates that were ruined in and around Tenterden,

in Kent, in 1648 by the Parliamentary forces, were those of the Gulderfords, the Argalls, the Richards and Culpepers, etc." All of these families were among the gentry and claimed their lands by Knight Service.

The Gulderfords were an ancient family, it being known that they were in England before 1200.

*According to Philipot* tells us that Henri de Gulderford, who owned ~~by~~ Lydd Manor, near Wickham and Lydd, by Knight Service, was the father of Sir William Guldeford, high sheriff of Kent and the first owner of Hemstead Manor, which he enlarged with a great mansion.

He lived in the reign of Richard II. and succeeding Kings.

Another account gives Edward as his father, with four generations back of Edward.

The wife of William was Joan Halden, of Halden Manor, near Hempstead Manor.

Sir William had son Edward, high sheriff of Kent, and Edward had son, Sir John, who inherited Hemstead. He was comptroller of the House of Edward IV. and private counselor to Henry VII. This Sir John died 1493 and is buried at Canterbury. His wife was Alice Waller of Groombridge, in Kent.



He was the father of Sir Richard, the great mariner, who controlled 500 <sup>*Golden Sails*</sup> ~~ships~~ at sea, and who was made Knight of the Garter. Richard and his father joined forces, and with their retainers, fought against Richard III. (See Shakespeare—Act. 4.)

Richards' second wife was sister to Lord Vaux. He died 1506 and is buried on Mount Zion, having taken a journey there with his chaplain and others to view the Holy Land.\*

His son Edward of Halden Manor was the father of Joan (or Jane) Guilford, who married John Dudley, Duke of Northumberland. She became the grandmother of Sir Philip Sydney. She survived her unfortunate family but two years, dying at the age of 46. Her last request was that the money that would be spent on her funeral be given to the poor.†

This Edward was Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports. His wife was Elenor West, Sister to Lord Delaware. His second wife was Joan, daughter of Stephen Pittlesden. She inherited Pittlesden Manor of Tenterden. This was the home for

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\*An account of this journey to the Holy Land was written by the Chaplain and printed by the Camden Press Society of London.

†See Archæological Cantiana, 1888, on Guilford family. Vol. 14.

a while, of John Dudley. After many years it became the residence of the Curtis family.

Philipot tells us that Sir Edward Guilford was a good and trusted man, who was knighted for brave conduct at Tournay, but who adhered to the cause of Lady Jane Grey, and so lost his life.

Sir George of Hemstead, brother of Edward and high sheriff of Kent, married Elizabeth Mortimer, granddaughter of the Duke of Norfolk. He had son, Sir John. The latter lived until 1565. He had large possessions and many children who married with families of rank. His first wife was Barbara West, daughter of Lord Delaware. Philipot tells us that there was an old schedule enumerating the manor houses of Sir John Guilford. Many of these were in or near Tenterden.\*

Much has been written by the old chroniclers of Kent and Surrey on the eminence of this family, that is unnecessary to repeat, but which, nevertheless, makes interesting reading. So interwoven, it is with the histories of other families and with the rural and public life of Old England.

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\*Woodreve, Berry Ebony, Fersham, Bracket, Wickham, Pittlesden, were some of the Manors owned by Sir John Guilford.

"The Guilford Coat of Arms," said Ireland, "could be seen as late as 1840 or 1850, over the stable doors of Halden Manor." The Arms are not described but we are quite certain that on them was an oak tree. It is on the Arms of Sir Richard Guilford, who was made Knight of the Garter. Other devices were on these arms which would indicate an adoption of them for four generations back to William Guilford of Hemstead Manor. This ancient seat where Queen Elizabeth was entertained remained in the family until ~~1771~~ 1718

There is sufficient evidence to warrant the belief that the Guilford emigrants were descendants of the Hemstead family.

First, there is the tradition connected with the emigrant John's daughter, "descended from a family of rank."

Aside from this I find that one William Guilford was living in 1636 in the vicinity of Hemstead and Halden estates, who fits into that period assigned to the father of the emigrants. He lived at Broomfield.

Broomfield joins Tenterden and Leeds, and is near Maidstone and Canterbury, all of which towns being under the jurisdiction of East Greenwich.

Philipot, who took a survey of Kent in 1619, describes Broomfield as a heathy, rather damp place in the southern part, but fine and dry near Tenterden and towards Leeds.

In an old volume in the Congressional Library, I found a description of a deed made in 1636 in Broomfield, in which the name of William Guilford appears as a witness; namely,

“The Manor of Roses is sold to James Miller, Gentleman, of Wrothen (a parish in Broomfield) to Solomon Wood of Worms Hill.”

The land was in Ulcombe Parish and bounded by the land of Anthony, St. Ledger, Richard Saunders, etc. The witnesses are:

Richard Tylden.

Richard and John Wood.

William Guilford of Brimfield, near Ledys.

And the mark of James Game (or Gamble).\*

I found, afterwards, a description of this deed in the Archæological Cantianna, and also in a book called the “Bell Founders of Kent,” but some of the names of the witnesses were changed, being confused, possibly, with the names of the

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\*I sought in vain a year later for this old volume. The foreign war had made many changes among the assistants of the library. It was probably Ireland or Philipot.

witnesses to two other smaller deeds, which were alluded to but not described.

The names of Argall and Richards appear in one version, but the residence of none are given, except that of William Guilford and his only, in that one old volume above referred to.

I found that Brimfield meant "Broomfield" and Ledyes, "Leeds."

There is another allusion to William Guilford, in 1634 (under Canterbury records); he goes bond for the marriage of William Reader, of Wormshill and Martha Viny, widow of Thomas Viny. It is stated that he (William) was either from the parish of Ulcombe or Bradgar in Broomfield. An interrogation point after his name implies a doubt either if he signed the bond himself, or if he lived in either of those parishes. Apparently the parties were married in Canterbury and had taken the bond with them to prove that they were the right parties.

There were several parishes in Broomfield.

In Kent, at that period, some reliable man was required to give bond for a couple contemplating matrimony.

One William Guilford evidently lived in 1636 and later near Wormshill or Ulcombe parish in

Broomfield near the King's lands, that ran up to Tenterden, and towards Leeds.

The strongest proof that this is the one sought for is the fact that his friends and neighbors in Broomfield and Tenterden, and nearby towns, are found to be coming to the same places in New England and Maryland to which John and William came.

The Lewis and Curtis families who went to Scituate, were from Tenterden. The Tyldens also go there. From Lydd came the Bates brothers to Scituate and Hingham. The Argalls, Richards, Knights and Readers, of Broomfield, are all found in or near St. Mary's Parish in Maryland, where William Guilford goes after being in Scituate and Roxbury.

The Culpepers and Dukes of this part of Kent are also represented in Maryland, near St. Mary's.

One Argall and one by name of Knight take up land with William Guilford's son.

In various branches of the Guilford family, the tale has come down that the first one of the family was lost at sea, coming either from England or Virginia.

Asa Guilford, who died in 1891, at the age of 89 years, had this fact from his grandfather's



family. As he related it to me, the first one went to the Virginia Plantations and perished at sea, coming either from England or Virginia, and that his property was lost with him; also that he had three children. Records have been found that bear out this statement.

This grandfather, John Guilford, was well known to Asa Guilford. He was born in Scituate in 1721 and lived until 1816, being 95 at the time of his death. All of his early life had been spent in Scituate, and after his removal to Leicester and Spencer he had gone back to his native town to obtain property left by his grandfather, Paul, who was the son of the emigrant, John. The history of the family must have been well known to him.

Thus, it is seen that John and William were related, William being, apparently, the elder brother, or half-brother, possibly.

The theory has been advanced that the father came to Virginia, but it is more probable that he died in England and that the widow came with her sons to America. "Widow Mary Guilford, who died in Hingham in 1660, was no doubt the mother." (See Savage.)

William's wife was widow Mary by this time, but her name is seen in Maryland after Mary of Hingham had died.

William purchased a house in Roxbury of the apostle Elliot, in 1650.

At Roxbury, which is only about ten miles from Hingham and Scituate, a few families had settled who were formerly from Kent, notably the Lewis and Curtis families, who were also represented at Scituate. Elliot's wife was a Curtis.

William sold his property in 1651 and went to Boston. This may have been in preparation for another removal, for the same year he goes with wife and servant, Barnes Johnson, to Virginia Plantations to that part called Maryland, and there is given 500 acres of land for bringing several persons into the colony.

It is evident that William and wife adhered to the Church of England, which was, this same year, beginning to receive encouragement from the Catholic Calverts.

William had probably been in Virginia before, for it is certain that one William Guilford was in Maryland in 1649, it being in the archives of that state that William Guilford and Thomas Truman (the latter afterwards a large land-



holder in Maryland) were associated in the ownership of 350 acres of land in St. Mary's Parish, obtained, according to the conditions of that year, 1649. Thomas Truman was only about 21 at that time and he would be more likely to be associated with the son than the father. This land was sold in 1651. It was called a Frehold.

A Frehold was given to those who brought emigrants to this country. They brought, it is presumed, about seven men, obtaining land as the law was that year.

We are told that many of these coming at this time were sons of good families who, for the privilege of escaping from England, bound themselves out for a term of years to the planters.

This record concerning the Frehold, found in an old archive book in the Baltimore Historical Library, was so faded that a magnifying glass had to be used to read it. As it was read to me then before it was copied, the year was 1649. This would accord with the family tradition that they first came to Virginia and then to New England. If they were here before this year, there are no records to prove it.

Thus, we may assume the probability that the family were in Scituate and Hingham in 1649, where the mother and younger son found old

friends and a country more to their liking than Virginia.

Records of business transactions in Maryland prove that William dealt in merchandise, going from Maryland to Boston, and possibly as far as Maine. His wife was in Boston in 1653, when the Indians were making trouble in Maryland. Her son, John, was born in Boston that year. "Son of William and Mary Guilford," says the record. She is back again in Maryland for she speaks of being in her house in St. Mary's. Her name is spelled "Gilfourd,"—so written by the clerk—but spelling was of no consequence then; members of the same family often spelling their names differently. She probably told him there was a letter u in it.

The 500 acres of land was on the eastern shore of Cheasepeake Bay, and 300 acres of it appears to have been sold or parted with in some manner before 1658. This may have been the 300 acres that Nathaniel Wright wills to his son in 1709, called "Guilford." It was across the bay from St. Mary's Parish. His Plantation on the Patuxit River, where he lived was probably purchased outright. At what point on this river is not known, but the estate was settled in Calvert County (or St. Mary's County then).

All this region was well built up at a later day with fine Manor houses. St. Mary's Parish, now a small hamlet, was once the County Seat and the home of the Calvert family, three or four of them in succession, having administered the government of Maryland under the title of Lord Baltimore. As Thomas has said in his Colonial History, a more picturesque spot is not found in all Maryland than this old St. Mary's Parish, on St. Mary's River, with its beautiful views over the surrounding country — views of historic homes and of winding silver streams leading away into a blue and hazy distance, reminding one of the beautiful English lands from which the emigrants came. To further enhance its charm, the march of progress has moved slowly here and we find that the old English names of the Manor houses and towns are still lingering in certain localities as if defying the spirit of modern times.

In St. Mary's Parish,\* the accidents of time and the thoughtlessness of man, have united quite thoroughly in destroying its historical landmarks. Its oldest landmark, the brick state house, that many would have come far to behold, was taken down many years ago and its brick

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\*St. Marys is near the Patuxit River.

built into a church. The protests of a few far-sighted people were in vain. The majority ruled.

But the fields of St. Mary's Parish are as green and fair as if fires and ruin had never come near them, and are as still as if they had never echoed to the tread of English footsteps and the merry songs of revelers.

Within walking distance is the estate that Leonard Calvert gave to Margaret Brant, his cousin, whose story has been told in a charming romance by Miss Thurston.

The site of the old Inn and the place where the roomy house of the Calverts stood is pointed out to us.

Park Manor and Cross Manor, still bearing the names given them before 1660, rise up across the country, a joyful yet sad reminder of ancient days. The history of which with hundreds of other things, the historians of Maryland with praiseworthy efforts are trying to keep alive.

To return to William Guilford, whom we have come to regard as a careless and reckless man in business matters without the least fear of debt, yet honest withal, and a man of tireless energy, hopeful always of building up in America something that corresponded to his old home in England. Several of his dealings are on record

where he buys merchandise and agrees to pay in tobacco, then the legal currency of the colony. Mark Phypo, the attorney, and Micah Brooke, the land commissioner, sign his notes. He is associated in land deals with Thomas Truman, a well known citizen and trusted public man.

But we come to the final transaction of William Guilford. This was copied by the late Christopher Johnson of Baltimore, from the archives of Maryland, for William Guilford of Lebanon, Pa., who sent it to Jonas Guilford of Minneapolis. Several other transactions connected with trade and payments were copied at the same time, and were in the same letter. His name is always spelled Gillford.

Provincial Court, Liber S, folio 294.

This bill bindeth me, William Gillford, my administrators or assigns, to pay unto Henry Potter or his assigns, the full and just sum of One Thousand, Six Hundred Pounds of good and merchantable tobacco and casks according to ye law now enacted for payments of tobacco and to be paid on Patuxit River at or upon the 10th of Nov. next, and for the true performance hereof, I, the said William Guilford, do bind over my plantation which now I live upon on Patuxit River, with all the houseings and edifices thereon

erected or built; and I do give ye said Potter, full power to enter upon ye said Plantation, without molestation or hinderance of me William Guilford, in case I do not pay aforesaid sum by ye time aforesaid. As witness my hand.

Willm. Guilford.

His Mark

Dec. 8, 1658.

Micah Brook.

John Kemp.

Liber 8 Folio 294.

I saw the original in Annapolis in 1915, and the mark was somewhat like three of the letters o joined together, but Christopher Johnson, the genealogist and Egyptologist, makes it a leaf,\* and he may have seen it in other transactions as such, or the mark may have meant a leaf. This has some significance as being—possibly—from his Coat of Arms. Could not William Guilford write his name? We believe that he could; nevertheless, it is now quite well known that some men who could write had private marks for convenience. But pens were clumsy articles in those days and seamen were not accustomed to using them. Although there were eminent scholars, education was not regarded then with the reverence it now compels. Accounts were kept with notched

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\*An oak leaf, apparently although the mark which I saw could pass as the letter G in Old English—small type. There is no mention of William's mark in Roxbury records.



sticks in London as late as 1700. Macaulay tells us that as late as 1680 many sons of noblemen could not write their names. A woman's mark was looked upon with favor by the men who feared lest she become possessed of something that would lessen her value as a housewife.\* Even a superficial knowledge of that time, will bring one to this conclusion. At a much later period, a woman who spent more time with her book than at her needle work, was looked down upon. In a book called "The Day Star of Freedom," we are told that sometimes in Maryland was to be seen the servant's signature and the master's mark. The author ascribes it to the military influence in England, the Knights not regarding literature as a lofty pursuit, when scribes were employed to write for them.

In Lydd, Old England, the people, nobility and all, signed with crosses down to the time of Edward the Confessor.

We turn again to records. Wm. Guilford sails away in the winter of 1658-59 on his last voyage. A record has been found. "Wm. Guilford, Mariner, perished at sea." His plantation, all mortgaged, was lost to the family.

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\*No schools were established for girls in the early years of the colony in the small towns.

His wife, Mary (last name unknown), in 1659, calls herself a widow, age 32, with three children, William, Margaret and John.

This same year, 1659, Mary Guilford assigns to Anthony La Compte, 200 acres of land on the east side of Chesapeake Bay on the south side of the Choptauk River, in Hernes Bay,\* saying that it is the last of a tract of land acquired seven or eight years since, by her husband for transporting herself and Barnes Johnson, his servant, into the Province.† The two children who probably went to Maryland with them, may have been counted in the acquiring of land, although they are not mentioned.

The boundaries of the counties have been changed, but at that time this land was in Dorchester Co., or Talbot Co., (all called, at first, St. Mary's) ; 300 acres of this must have been parted with before, as previously stated.

In 1660 or 61, Mary Guilford binds out her son to service for a certain number of years. There seems to be no one now to whom she can turn for help, as John and his mother in New England, both died this same year, 1660. But this does not prevent the son's taking up of land,

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\*On the coast near Canterbury, O. E., there is a Hernes Bay.

†See Maryland Historical Magazine for March, 1917.



for Thomas Taylor assigns to him, about 1660, 150 acres, and to his sister Margaret the same. William Guilford assigns this land to Mark Cordea in 1667.

Mark Cordea was a merchant and an inn holder and lived in St. John's in St. Mary's Parish. He owned, also, Elizabeth Manor. He afterwards lived in Dorchester Co.

If William Guilford's vessel was saved it is quite possible that it was leased, or sold, to this Mark Cordea, and the son employed on it, for the name of Wm. Guilford is seen as a transient in Boston, a few years after the death of his father, when no other one of that name was known to be in the Colony. This probably was the case.

It is evident that Mary Guilford kept in communication with her friends in Scituate, for she joins them in 1667 in Falmouth, Me. (now Portland), where they have started a colony of the Church of England. Lewis and Foxwell of Scituate were at the head of this colony, and both were from Kent, in or near Tenterden. A branch of this family of Guilford's settled in Salem and Danvers in 1685 because of the Indian wars in Maine, but some of them remained, or went back, to Maine. When they came to Danvers, descendants of John, the emigrant, were

living and owned lands near by. These may have been the reasons for their coming to this place.

Having become interested in William Guilford, I have pursued him longer than I, at first, intended. I am convinced that the traditions connected with the daughter of John, the emigrant, refers to him.

Hoyt, in his first history of Amesbury, relates a tradition that the first one in Amesbury, namely, the daughter of John Guilford, who married Thomas Jewel, eloped with her father's servant and fled into the wilderness; was disinherited, but was restored to favor and property sent her which was lost at sea; also that she was the daughter of Lord Guilford. This has been found to be quite untrue as regards the daughter of John Guilford and there was no Lord Guilford at that period, Lord North having received the title later.

There is always a grain of truth in tradition, if it can be sifted out, we find facts at the bottom. As time went on and the grandchildren grew old, they began to dimly remember what had been told them when young and so it continued until the tales were changed and warped, and "Sir" became "lord." It hinges on the word "first." William was the first in this country, and

Susanah Guilford Jewel the first in Amesbury.

We can see by William's dealings in Maryland that he was an impulsive, careless man. He probably ran away from home early to a seafaring life, and afterwards made a hasty marriage in some Kent Parish. The Guilfords in Kent, large numbers of them, as is seen in old records, came by their lands by Knight Service. They were compelled to marry with their equals by the King's authority. This law was in force until the time of Charles II. This would be sufficient to disinherit William.

We now come to John and Samuel Guilford.

Samuel went to Barnstable. He married Jane Loring. He was soon killed by the Indians. It is not known that he left descendants. As the name was not kept in the family as was the custom, it is presumed that he may not have been a brother, but a cousin or of some other kinship.

John married Susanah Norton, 1650, and settled in Hingham. Hingham joins Scituate and some portions of it were formerly in Scituate.

Susanah Norton (sometimes spelled Nowlton) was the daughter of Wm. and Ann Norton of Hingham. Lincoln, in his history, says that it is possible that they were the parents of the Rev. John Norton, of Boston, and of Wm.

Norton of Hingham and Ipswich, who married Lucy, the daughter of Emanuel Downing. If so, Ann Norton was a second wife.\* After living for ten years a widow, she married Capt. John Tucker, 1649, a neighbor, who had been a widower for four years. Capt. Tucker had two children by a first wife; Mary, who married, 1660, Joseph Church, and John, who married a daughter of Edmund Hobert of Boston. He was constable.

Capt. Tucker died in 1664, and in his will exhorts his children to deal righteously with their mother. She lived until 1675, and her will is on record in which she names Paul and Susanah Guilford, calling them her grandchildren. She wills two parts of her estate to Paul and the remainder to Susanah.

John Guilford was the father of Susanah, born November, 1651, and Paul, born August, 1653. Here begins a Bible name.

John Guilford died in 1660, in September. His wife is supposed to have died the same year. Mary, the mother, died in May of the same year.

The children were probably reared by their grandmother.

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\*Will<sup>m</sup> Norton of Hingham died 1639.

W<sup>m</sup> of Ipswich was born about 1610. *died 1694*

Very little is known of John Guilford. We know that he brought property to Scituate and Hingham, which Paul inherited. Less hardy in constitution than his brother possibly, we see that the mother stays with this son. His name has been kept in the family as if his memory was cherished. Thirty years later his house and home lot were sold by his son for fifty pounds, which was, perhaps, half what it cost, this being the usual case. A house costing then, 100 pounds, would be equal to one costing about 1500 now. Thus, we surmise that John had a very good house for those times.\*

Hingham was regarded as a safe place from the Indians, it being on a bay that opened into the ocean and only fourteen miles from Boston. It was settled by a large company of Norfolk men who came there with their pastor in 1635.

The troublesome times in England must have reconciled them to the privations of the New World. But these privations were not so many as would seem. Much game was in the forest

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\*Thirty dollars was the cost of building a house of one room in Ipswich, 1670. A good house with two or three acres attached. could be purchased for 18 or 20 lbs.

and fish in the sea. Boats were coming and going between New England and Virginia, and from many points along the coast, bringing and carrying produce. Although the winters were long the hearths were enlivened by great fires for there was no lack of wood. The summers are delightful on the coast, where a wide expanse of sky stretches over the ocean and clouds seem so near. Autumn, with its colored forests and hazy atmosphere, brought a trail of wild geese and pigeons soaring southward that filled the trees *ai* with motion and life.

Misstress Mary Guilford, sitting in her straight chair, sighs, we fancy, many times, as she thinks of her home in England and her friends there. The chair is of English oak, strong, and well made, and is only one of the substantial things about her, for in their vessel was stored, we are sure, many comforts from home. As she hears of the disordered times still continuing in England, she feels more secure in her new surroundings and sighs less. One can go on and imagine many things that envelops these New England women, and continue to imagine; but little is revealed—the records are dumb.



Paul Guilford married Susanah Pullen, February, 1676, and settled down in Hingham.\* He served in the Indian Wars at different times and was with the Turner Company (called the flower of the state) when it met with great disaster. He is called a Joiner, but a Joiner, at that time was an architect. He designed houses. He had many pieces of land. He sells lots and acres to various individuals in 1681-84-85, intending, it would seem, to change his residence; perhaps to Amesbury, where his sister had gone, or perhaps to Maine, where he owned land. But he lingers on in Hingham. In one deed we read "with the consent of his overseers, Samuel and James Bates," both Kent men. I am told that certain pieces of land were under the jurisdiction of overseers. This was the land that had belonged to Wm. Norton, his grandfather, given his grandfather by the town of Hingham, as he states.† In all other deeds we read "by his own free will." Always he writes his name, then a seal is affixed by the clerk. In one deed is seen

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\*Susanah Pullen's brother had married a daughter of Anthony Bracket, the pioneer merchant and landholder of Falmouth, Maine. We can imagine Paul going there in one of Bracket's boats to visit his relatives and thus becoming acquainted with young Pullen's sister. Apparently Wm. Loyd Garrison descended from this Pullen family, who came, it seems, from Essex, Old England.

†See Colonial Histories on apportionments of land.

"Paul Gilford," "his seal." All other deeds have affixed "A Seal." This, I find only in one Edition of the Suffolk Archives. This, if not a mistake of the copyist, would indicate that he owned his father's seal. In 1684 the house and home lot above referred to, is sold to Enoch Hobert. It is described as the sea being west of it with a street in front, Edward Cowel on the east and north, and Wm. Woodcock on the south. The deed—the whole form of it—shows that it was the first grant and that it had been granted to his father. "Allianated," "enfeofeed," "twig" and "turf" occur in it and "According to the tenure of land in East Greenwich in the realm of England." This has led some to the conclusion that some parish in East Greenwich was the former home of this family, which is, no doubt, correct; but East Greenwich is a legal formula, used in grants in England and in many of the first grants here. ✕

The children of Paul were Mary, born 1679; Elizabeth, born 1682, and William, born 1689.

In 1690 Paul arranges his affairs and directs certain lands to be set apart for the education of his son William, then an infant. He goes this same year with Phipps to Quebec. He died as he was returning in the Fleet, April 9, 1690, he

*Broomfield is under the Jurisdiction  
of East Greenwich*



being only 37 years of age. His wife died the same month.\* The children, left orphans, were reared in Scituate with relatives of the mother, it is supposed, in that part of Scituate, joining Hingham, called Hanover.

There is a record of marriage in 1711 of Thomas Curtis and Mary Guilford. One Elizabeth Guilford married John Taylor in 1732. The date is probably wrong.

Susanah, Paul's sister, married Thomas Jewel of Roxbury, 1672. He came to Hingham to live and they were members of the First Church there, her seat in church being directly opposite his.† They went to Amesbury, Mass., to live 1684, where Jewel was a man of prominence. He owned much land and laid out several towns. His residence was in the high part of Amesbury commanding beautiful views.

Amesbury, Newbury and Ipswich are towns joining each other. By water route they are not far from Hingham.

Settled at Ipswich at an early day were the Norton,s the Dudleys, the Downings, and other

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\*Hobert, who records births and deaths in Hingham, never makes any comment on any of them. In this may be wisdom, for light thrown on one might cast a shadow on another.

†In those days, the men were seated on one side of the church and the women on the other side.

families of note. Bradstreet lived not far from Ipswich; Gov. Endicott also.\*

In reference to the tradition connected with Susanah Jewel I have seen a manuscript written by the wife of the Rev. Mr. Barnes. Her grandmother's great aunt was a daughter of Thomas Jewel and Susanah Guilford. Mrs. Barnes confirms the tradition by remembering hearing her grandmother talk of her great aunt, of her having had a chest of rich clothing sent her from England, and that they were a family of high rank there.

Be this as it may, time has leveled all distinctions and made this matter seem of small importance now to the present generation, but I have recorded it as an interesting fact.

Susanah's children were all born in Hingham. There is a record of them in Hoyt's History of Amesbury.

William, the son of Paul, married Elizabeth Wright of Scituate about 1712. They lived in that part of Scituate, now called Hanover, once a lively village, on a deep river where boats were built. They had two sons and four daughters,

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\*Bradstreet moved from North Andover to Salem before 1660. He lived until 1690. The Dudleys went to Roxbury. By 1684 there had been many changes in all of these families.

William, born about 1715; Susanah, baptized between 1714 and 1717; Agatha, born 1718; John, born 1721, baptized at the house of Benjamin Woodard, "the child being sick and not able to be taken to church" as record states.\* (Benjamin Woodard had married a sister of William's wife.). Elizabeth, born 1725, May 16. She died in Pembroke, 1735. There was also a Maria, who married in 1734 Meletia Dillingham; Susanah married John Laud of Pembroke, now Rockland; Agatha—record imperfect—she probably went to Williamsburg with her brother William's family; William, Jr., married Jane Keen, 1737-38. Her baptism is recorded with her son Paul. William, Sr., about 1740 or 1745, went to Leicester, Mass., to live. He probably had a grant of land there assigned him on account of his father's service in the Indian Wars. Before his removal he went there with Robert Woodard to learn the conditions of the country. He lived near Shaw's Pond, in Leicester, and was buried in the old burial ground near the church. He must have died before 1760 or about that time, as no burials were allowed there after that period.

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\*At that period Children were not always baptized the day after their birth—often not for several years afterwards.

There is a record of marriage in 1758 between one William Guilford and Jane Parsons of Brookfield. If his wife had died before that time it may refer to him. The records of Leicester are very imperfect. Leicester, Spencer and Worcester are towns lying close together, and within fifty miles of Boston.

William Guilford, Jr., who went with his family to Leicester, with his father, removed to Williamsburg, Mass., in 1750. He was in the French and Indian War; he died before 1760. His children were: Paul, Micah, William, Noah, Timothy, Simeon, Hepsibah, a daughter. The last two were born in Williamsburg. Most of these sons were in the Revolutionary War. Both Micah and Paul enlisted at Amherst on the Expedition to Crown Point. Micah died on the way, it was reported. Paul enlisted as a lieutenant in Capt. Hubbard's Co. He was in the service at various times. Descendants live in New York and Chicago. Timothy was in the war at various times. He settled in Williamsburg, married Sarah Hayden; died 1820. The daughter married Paul Clapp. Noah was lost at sea. William, third, married and lived in that vicinity. Simeon married Ruhanah Hayden, 1787. Simeon, the civil engineer of Lebanon, Pa., was

his son. In a letter dated 1879 to Jonas Guilford of Minneapolis, he states that his age is 77 and that he is the son of Simeon, who was born in Williamsburg, and who was a soldier in the War of the Revolution. He was an ensign and lieutenant and, at times, a clerk at Washington headquarters. He taught school for many years after the war. He died at Pittsfield, Mass., 1844, aged 93. Simeon, of Lebanon, died 1895, aged 94. His son, Dr. Wm. Guilford, has excelled notably in his profession. One of William's sons is Paul, an oculist, living in Chicago. The letters of William, another son, are before me as I write. They are remarkably well written and indicate a very high and pure order of mind. He died suddenly as he was about to take a trip abroad. The Guilford school at Cleveland was founded by a descendant of this Williamsburg or Ashfield family.

John Guilford, born 1721, second son of William, Sr., married Susanah Whitney, June 26, 1750, and settled in that part of Leicester (afterwards called Spencer) on land purchased of Paul and William Dudley. There is an old tradition that they were related to the Dudleys. It seems far fetched to go back to the Dudley family in

England. It may have been by the way of the Nortons.

Paul Dudley's wife was Lucy Wainwright, and she was a granddaughter of William Norton and Lucy Downing, by way of Elizabeth Norton, who married ~~Francis~~<sup>John</sup> Wainwright, the merchant. Lincoln's note in regard to William Norton of Ipswich, may be correct. If so, then William, Sr., who came to Leicester, would have been a second cousin to Paul Dudley's wife.\*

John Guilford built his house on this land and here he reared his family. He was an enterprising man and owned large tracts of land at various times. He was in the French and Indian Wars. His children were: John, born 1752, January 20, died 1828; Asa, born 1754, May 7, died 1776; Samuel, born 1757, died 1833; Jonas, born 1758, August 28, died 1809, July 17; William, 1761, died 1807; Lucy, born 1762, died September 3, 1842; Nathan, who died in infancy.

Asa Guilford, a grandson, remembered John Guilford, as above stated, who was born in 1721. He came with wife, Susanah, to live with son Jonas in his old age. He remembered his grief at the death of his son Jonas (Asa's father), of his going to live with his daughter, Mrs. Bemis—

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\*Paul Dudley's wife lived until 1756. He died 1751.



of his coming to visit the family afterwards, he guiding him home across the fields—of his saying with great earnestness that the boundaries of the land should have never been changed, a portion having been set off for the Bemis family when he moved there. His wife was living, I believe, when her son Jonas died. I have no record of her death. She is described as having been a very bright, capable woman. There is an old deed still in existence with John Guilford's name signed to it. He gives his son Jonas a portion of his farm. He died 1816.

John Guilford, born 1752, was a student at Harverd when the Revolutionary War commenced, but he seems to have been at home when the alarm was given. He and his brother Samuel enlisted with the Brookfield Rangers and Cavalry Co., April 19, 1775, and went that day towards Boston in Wolcot's Co. service 14 days. On May 3d he enlisted again in Capt. Green's Co.; on September 11, 1775, he enlisted to go on the Canada expedition. He expected to be gone four months. On the Sunday previous, his brother Asa met him after church service at Harvard College and lodged with him that night, and for two nights afterwards. On Wednesday, September 13, 1775, he marched with Arnold

for Quebec, on which journey he endured privations from which he never fully recovered. In his company on the Canada Expedition were his neighbors, Daniel and Benjamin Ball, David Chamberlain; Timothy Bigelow was Major, to whom a monument has been erected commemorating his services in the Revolution. The sufferings of this company on this expedition are a matter of history. They blamed the officers for the attack on Quebec. After John Guilford's return he joined May 5, 1777, Josiah Whitney's Regiment from Weston. Was discharged July 6, 1777. He enlisted again September, 1777, in Capt. David Prouty's Co., and marched to reinforce the Northern Army. After the war he settled on a farm in South Spencer, but his Virgil, it is said, had always more attractions for him than the plough. He married Sarah Flagg, 1793, May 8th. Four children: Jonas, born May, 1797, married Eliza Monroe; Sophia, born November, 1794, married Elijah Adams of Brookfield, 1820; Catherine, born 1799, March 4, married Allen Collins; John F., born 1802, January 16; John Guilford died 1828, March 20; his wife died 1821, June 8.

Asa Guilford, born 1754, in Spencer, was a student, as his books which he used could testify.



They were seen a hundred years later. He enlisted in the Army of the Revolution as a private when 21 years old in Capt. John Cowles' Co. in Benjamin Ruggles' Regiment. He went to Cambridge, 1775, in September. He was a medical student and was appointed surgeon of his regiment, which fact may explain why he signed his name as "Captain" to his letter. On Sunday, September 10, 1775, he met his brother John, at Harvard. After parting from him he wrote the following letter to his father:

"From Asa Guilford to his parents"

"I saw (or I see) John last Sabbath day the 10th at Cambridge College after meeting and he had listed that morning to go to Canada under Capt. Hubbard (Hubbard) of Worcester and Bigelow goes as Major and Daniel Ball and, also, they have not listed for any length of time. to nothing but a piece of clean paper. I was with him the chief part of the day on Monday, on Monday night and Tuesday night; On Wednesday they marched. I asked him the reason of his going. He said that his duty was hard there and he always had a notion to go to Canada. I asked him if my coming down was the reason of his going or not. He said

no for he hated to go away and leave me and wanted that I should go with him if he was certain of returning in four months. He carried with him forty shillings lawful and Green owes him as much more and he would have me see and get it if he was not at home in four months and would have me send a letter that he was gone that you might not be overmuch concerned about him."

"John Guilford            "Capt. Guilford."  
at Spencer."

This copy of the original letter was obtained about 1876 from the one in possession of John E. Guilford, grandson of John Guilford, to whom the letter was written.

On December 23d an order was issued to Asa Guilford for a bounty coat (for enlistment). Soon after this he was taken sick with fever. His mother, on receiving a message that he was ill, rode immediately to Cambridge on horseback, a distance of nearly sixty miles, cared for him during his illness and buried him wrapped in the blanket which had been thrown over her saddle. He died, this promising young man, sometime in January, 1776, and is thought to be buried somewhere near Mt. Auburn.

One can imagine the swift ride of this mother to Boston, the days and nights full of anxiety by the couch of her son, the pathetic, mournful scene at the grave where she was, doubtless, surrounded by a little band of his fellow soldiers, many of them his own townsmen—and then her sad journey home.

This was one of the early sacrifices to our country. Many messages were received by mothers during those perilous times that bowed them with grief.

Samuel Guilford, born 1757, entered the service April 19, 1775, going to Boston with the Brookfield Rangers. He was in service twelve days. He next enlisted in Capt. John Wolcot's Co., May 17, 1775; was near Point Shirley and Hull, Mass., in guard duty possibly. Was in service until December 1, 1776. Was in Capt. Cowles' Company, also Josiah Whitney's Regiment. In July 17, 1777, he enlisted in the army again and continued until January 3, 1778. This service was in Rhode Island. There were enlistments after that apparently. He was a pensioner for a short time. He married Elizabeth Cranson of Spencer and settled in Ashfield, near Williamsburg. He died in April, 1833. No complete record of his children here.

William Guilford, born 1761, married Ruth Bemis Green, a daughter of Nathaniel Bemis, Sr. She was born 1758. He lived in East Brookfield, near Spencer. He was a miller. They had four children: Arnold, who lived in Brookfield; Susanah, who married Hon. Rufus Adams of Spencer, 1812, April 20; Nancy, who married Cephas Muzzy, son of Capt. Jonas Muzzy, of Spencer (see Draper's History of Spencer); Catherine, who married John Guilford of Ashfield, son of Samuel Guilford.

Rufus Adams had two daughters: Adeline, born 1813, married Brigham Sibley, 1838; she died 1846. She was the mother of Rufus Sibley, the Merchant, of Rochester, N. Y..

Susan, born 1817, married Horace Hicks, of Charlton.

Arnold Guilford had two wives. He died 1877. He had five children. No complete record of them here.

Lucy Guilford, born 1762, married Nathan Bemis, 1788. He was a Revolutionary soldier, son of Nathaniel Bemis. They had seven children. (See Draper.) She died 1842, September 3. He died November 2, 1847, 83 years old.

Dr. Jonas Guilford, born 1759. He studied for his profession with Dr. Babbit of Sturbridge,

Worcester Co. This was before medical schools were established. In 1783 he married Lydia Hobbs, of Brookfield. She was born in 1762, a daughter of Deacon John Hobbs, of Brookfield, and Beulah Warren Hobbs.

Beulah Warren was a daughter of Dea. John Warren and Abigail Livermore. Dea. Hobbs' mother was a daughter of Ebenezer Davenport, of Boston.

In 1783 Dr. Guilford commenced practice, living in his father's house. Doctors of that period usually lived on farms, running up to villages. He was two miles from Spencer Village, and one-half mile across lots to the King's Highway, over which ran twenty to thirty coaches a day. This was the Main Avenue between New York and Boston. With the teams, the saddle horses, coaches and pedestrians, this road became a lively thoroughfare. Inns were frequent and near by. Although there were but five hundred inhabitants at this time in Spencer, the town must have been much livelier than at present.

In 1803 Dr. Guilford built a large and substantial house on the Sturbridge road, his father deeding him sixty acres of his farm. It was a house of two stories with hall in the center. It had six fireplaces, above and below. The timber



was cut on the farm. He lived but a few years. Dr. Guilford's death in 1809 at the age of 49 years was most unfortunate for his family. It is said of him that he was a useful man and much esteemed. He had a large country practice.

Dr. Guilford left nine children: Betsy (named Elizabeth probably and called Betty or Betsy), born May 15, 1784; Nathan, born July 17, 1786; Jonas, born November 10, 1788; Charles, born July 25, 1791; John, born February 4, 1793; Lydia, born February 24, 1795; Sally, born July 28, 1797; George, born 1799; Asa, born August 17, 1802.

Nearly every member of this family taught school at various times.

The mother lived until 1851, if my record is correct.

Betsey Guilford, who married Nathaniel Bemis, 1816, lived in Spencer near the old John Guilford place. She is said to have been a very handsome woman. Her children were: Eliza, born 1816; George, born 1818; Moses, born 1822.

George, unmarried, died 1910. He willed his fortune to libraries and hospitals.

Eliza, unmarried, died 1895.

Moses married Elizabeth Stone. He lived in Worcester; was a civil engineer and merchant.

He died 1902, September 10; left two children: Earl Bemis, civil engineer, and Miss Aby Bemis of Worcester. Mrs. Bemis died December, 1916.

Nathan Guilford, born 1786,\* entered Yale College in 1808, and graduated in 1812. The death of his father was a hindrance to his college course, but he succeeded in completing it. He studied law with Levi Lincoln, of Worcester; practiced law for a short time in the state of Maine; removed to Kentucky, where he was in partnership with Amos Kendall, who was afterward a member of the Cabinet of Andrew Jackson. In 1816 he removed to Cincinnati, where he practiced his profession. He married Eliza Farnsworth October 28, 1819, formerly of Rhode Island. After a few years he became so much interested in common school education for the masses that he devoted much time to this cause. In 1828, with his brother George, he had a bookstore on Main Street and published school books. In 1843 he published the Cincinnati Atlas. He was a member of the Ohio Senate, and succeeded in perfecting his scheme for common school education, in Ohio. In 1851 and 1852 he was Superintendent of Schools in Cincinnati. He died in 1854. (Copied from Nathan Guilford's book.)

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\*Dates are repeated for the sake of convenience.

The Guilford School, of Cincinnati, was named for him. More concerning this family will be found in the Genealogy of Guilford, Wallace and Farnsworth families, written by his son, Nathan Guilford, of Yonkers, N. Y. This book is in the New York and Long Island libraries—a work of much excellence.

Jonas Guilford, Jr., born November 10, 1788, married Persis Bemis, January, 1816, daughter of Joshua Bemis. She was born in 1795. He studied his profession with Dr. Babbit, of Brookfield, and was practicing physician for about half a century in his native town; Representative in the Massachusetts Legislature, 1842, from Spencer; town assessor, 1830. He had a large country practice, commencing first at South Spencer, but soon removing to Spencer Village. His children were:

Sarah, born December 5, 1816.

Caroline, born December 23, 1819.

Persis, born August 16, 1822.

Maria, born August 19, 1826.

Phoebe Jane, born May, 1829.

Ellen, born August 1832.

Jonas Guilford died August 8, 1866. His wife died August 9, 1866.



Sarah married Charles Denney (her first husband), in 1840. He died June 1, 1856. Her second husband was David Prouty. She died June, 1876.

Caroline Guilford was the first wife of David Prouty; married 1840, died 1863. He died 1892. They had one son, born 1844, died 1866.

Persis Guilford married Asa Jones, 1845. He was a son of Dr. Jones; died 1865. Persis died 1876; left one child, Thomas A. Jones.

Ellen married John G. Avery. No children. He died about 1907, and she died in 1909.

Maria and Phoebe, unmarried. Maria died 1902 and Phoebe 1895.

David Prouty left for Spencer the David Prouty High School.

Charles Denney left a charitable bequest for Spencer. Of this estimable family only one grandson survives, Thomas Asa Jones, of Colorado Springs. He has four children.

Charles, born 1791, was 18 years old at the time of his father's death. He taught school and carried on farming on his father's farm. He married Harriet Sumner about 1820. He sold to his brothers and sisters his interest in the home farm about 1835 or 1840. He lived in Greensboro, Vt., for a few years, then moved to

Iowa. He died at his daughter's residence in Cincinnati on September 27, 1871. His wife died there the same month, September 16. He was the father of three children:

Charles, born February, 1821.

William, born June, 1826.

Harriet, born 1839.

William lived at Storm Lake, Iowa. He married Margaret Sharp, 1852; no children.

Charles married Hepsey Coffin of Cincinnati, daughter of Capt. Coffin. He taught in the schools of Cincinnati many years, moving finally to Iowa, where he engaged in the mercantile business. He had four children, two sons and two daughters. One son, a promising young man, was drowned. Charles Guilford died at his daughter's residence (Mrs. Goodrich, of Chicago) about 1900.

Harriet married Dr. Marvin of Cincinnati. She had four children. She died in 187—.\*

Sally Guilford, born 1797, married Otis Grout, 1819. She had four children. She died 1848. No record of the children in my possession.

John Guilford, born 1793, married Dolly Sumner, 1819. Sumner and Elijah were his children.

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\*About 1877.

They were living in Iowa or Illinois a few years ago.

George Guilford went to Cincinnati, married Jane Ely, left one son, George, who married and has children living in or near Cincinnati.

Lydia died unmarried, 1865.

Asa Guilford, the youngest son, by the death of his father, was early thrown on his own resources. He attended the schools of Spencer and Leicester. Cincinnati became his home for a while, but he returned and purchased the interest of his brothers and sisters in the home place and went there to live with his mother, for whom he cherished a great affection. He married Mary Adams, of Brookfield, in 1837. The children were:

Jonas, born September 17, 1839.

Mary, born October 19, 1844.

Mary died at the age of seven years, and lies buried in Spencer.

In business affairs Asa Guilford possessed marked ability. His investments were made carefully and brought returns that justified his superior judgment. His practical nature was united with the qualities of a student, as could be seen by his appreciation of good literature and his fondness for reading. His grandchildren will

ever remember his frequent quotations from the Poems of Pope, which his memory from youth had preserved. He sold his home in 1867 and went with his wife to Minneapolis to live with his son, who had come there a few months before. His wife died in Minneapolis, September, 1884. He lived until 1891, September 3.

Jonas Guilford, born September 17, 1838, at the old Dr. Guilford Homestead; attended school in District No. 10, called the Pine Wood School; also a private school kept by John Conant, of East Brookfield. After attending the High School of Spencer and Leicester Academy, he entered Amherst College, September, 1860, from which he graduated in July, 1864. Immediately on graduation he enlisted in the Army engaged in the Civil War, July 13, 1864. He was in Co. F, Mass. Infantry. He was discharged 1864, November 30th, the war closing at that time. C S This Company was on guard duty most of the time. In 1865 he became a student in the Albany Law School, graduating there in the spring of 1866. He commenced law practice in St. Louis in May, 1866, but left that city in September of the same year, and came up the Mississippi River to Minneapolis. He opened an office in May, 1867, on the West Side, moving to the East Side

in 1868, where he was associated in business with Judge Norton Hemiup, although not in partnership with him. He was married on September 20, 1869, to Helen Morrill, of Minneapolis, formerly of Vermont. More concerning him and his law practice can be found in "Pioneers of Minneapolis," printed in 1914, contributed by other lawyers in Minneapolis.

Children of Jonas and Helen Guilford:

Harry Morrill Guilford, born March 17, 1872.

Harriet Adams Guilford, born February 2, 1874.

Paul Willis Guilford, born January 15, 1876.

The residence of Jonas Guilford on the East Side—then called St. Anthony—was, for a number of years, on Third Ave. N. E., then a good residence locality. This ground, now lowered by the removal of the limestone ledge, and the cutting of the fine oak trees, has become the home of foreigners. In 1884 he removed to West Minneapolis, living near Hawthorne Ave., and in 1897 removing to a residence on Hawthorne Ave., where he died May 15, 1909.

Harry Morrill Guilford, graduated from the University of Minnesota, 1895; Medical School of University, 1898; a practicing physician in Minneapolis and a member of the Health Board.

Harriet Guilford graduated from Carlton College, Northfield, Minn., 1898. Lives in Minneapolis.

Paul Willis Guilford graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1897, took post graduate course in Chicago, and in 1900 graduated from the Law School connected with the University of Minnesota; served in the Legislature of Minnesota, 1915; elected State Senator 1918.

He married Ella, daughter of Frank Griswold, July 29, 1908.

Richard Griswold Guilford, born October 18, 1909.

Margaret Helen Guilford, born August 20, 1910.

Wm. M., born May 4, 1915.

Eleanor, born May 24, 1918.













































